(g) Whether any age limit has been fixed for the members of Railway Board Scout Group ;

(h) if so, the details therof ; and

(i) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) At the call of the National Headquarters for Scouts & Guides, 7 Rovers & 4 Unit leaders were deputed at Hardwar in connection with Aardh Kumbh Mela. The duties assigned to these Scouts were to assist the passengers in detraining & entraining, guiding them to Mela areas, Booking Counters, Mela enclosures & Platforms. They were given Special Casual Leave and Special passes.

(f) No Group 'A' Officer of Railway is normally sent to accompany the Railway Board Scouts.

(g) to (i) The upper age limit prescribed for the Rovers is 35 years and all the 7 Rovers were below 35 years of age. However,, no upper age limit has been prescribed for the Unit leader.

Free Passes and P.T.Os to Railway employees

1064. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Railway employees are issued Free Passes and P.T.Os during service period and after retirement ;

(b) if so, the details thereof for Gazetted and Non-Gazetted employees ;

(c) whether the number of Free Passes issued to Gazetted and Non-Gazetted employees after retirement are not equal ;

(d) if so, the reasons for such discrimination ;

(e) whether Free Passes and P.T.Os are issued to widows and family of Railway employees after death of railway employees whether in service or after retirement ;

(f) if so, the details therof ;

(g) whether the number of P.T.Os being issued to railway employees reduced from six to four is with written consent of employees ; and

(h) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for such arbitrary reduction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) and (b) Railway employees are granted Privilege Passes and Privilege Ticket Orders during service and Post-retirement Complimentary Passes after retirement, as prescribed in the Railway Servants (Pass) Rules, as under :

I. *During Service*

Group	Privilege Passes	Privilege Ticket Orders
Gazetted (Groups A & B)	6 sets per year	
Non-Gazetted (Groups C & D)	(i) 1 set per year during the first five years of service. (ii) 3 sets per year after five years of service.	4 sets per year

II. *After retirement*

Group	Post-retirement Complimentary Passes
Gazetted (Groups A & B) . . .	(i) After completion of 20 years of Railway Service—2 sets of passes per year. (ii) After complition of 25 years of Railway Service—3 sets of passes per year.
Non-Gazetted (Group C) . . .	(i) After completion of 20 years of Railway Service—1 set of pass per year. (ii) After completion of 25 years of Railway Service—2 sets of passes per year.
Group D . . .	(i) After completion of 25 years of Railway Service—1 set every alternate year.

Retired Railway employees are not eligible for Privilege Ticket Orders.

(c) and (d) The scale of Post-retirement Complimentary Passes issued to Gazetted and Non-Gazetted Railway employees is subject to their Group as well as length of Railway service and ifso facto are not equal.

(e) and (f) Widows of Railway employees who were/are in Railway service on or after 12-3-1987 and expire after that date, while in service or after retirement, are eligible for complimentary passes subject to a minimum of half set per year. They are not granted Privilege Ticket Orders.

(g) and (h) When the scheme for grant of complimentary passes to widows was introduced, the then serving Railway employees were given an option to opt out of the scheme within the prescribed time limit.

Special Trains

1065. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the special trains used by the Railway Minister, till date, date and journey-wise ;

(b) the reasons for such a use in each case, separately ; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN) : (a) A statement is attached. (*See below*).

(b) These trains were run to facilitate Minister's inspection of Railway installations, track, land use, passenger amenities at stations ; and transportation of freight and passenger traffic.

(c) No separate account of expenditure by individual train is maintained on the Indian Railways as these are treated as Inspection Specials which are classified as Departmental trains.